



By George Stavroulakis

## FFA'S NATIONAL FEMALE FOOTBALL AWARDS WILL CONTINUE TO BE ANNOUNCED ON 8 MARCH 2019, INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY.

Football NSW is pleased to announce that next year's Female Football Week will be held during the period 25 May to 2 June 2019.

With Football NSW being the pioneer and commencing Female Football Week to coincide with Mother's Day back in 2014, the event evolved into a national celebration around International Women's Day from 2016.

Following Football Federations Australia's recent announcement of a new national approach to celebrating and promoting females in football, Member Federations could again select a timing that was most suitable for the delivery of Female Football Week locally.

Stuart Hodge, Football NSW CEO, is delighted that females' participation in football will be celebrated during the community club winter season.

"Female Football Week is always a wonderful event to highlight females involved in all aspects of football – playing, coaching, refereeing, volunteering and administration. We now have the possibility mid-season – when all of our Clubs and Associations are active and more settled into their competitions – to celebrate and promote opportunities for girls and women to become and remain involved in football."

Feedback following the 2018 event indicated that Clubs and Associations would have more capacity to activate once the season was underway.

Hayley Todd, Head of Women's Football at FNSW believes the timing of the 2019 week of celebrations will attract more females to not only the designated events, but more importantly the sport.

"We anticipate huge interest in activations during next year's Female Football Week. Not only is it timed to suit our local football community, it is also scheduled in the final lead-up to the FIFA Women's World Cup, where NSW players will feature in the Westfield Matildas squad. It is an opportune time to highlight everything the game has to offer, so that even more females want to get involved".

Hodge made a final point "Females' participation is integral to the success of football overall, so every week is really female football week, as we all strive towards equal representation in all areas of the game."

Football NSW will also provide support to Football Federation Australia during the Hyundai A-League/Westfield W-League Female Football Round (23-25 November 2018) and help drive registrations, featuring female participation, during the Play Football Round (7-10 February 2019).

FFA's national Female Football Awards will continue to be announced on 8 March 2019, International Women's Day.

Round 22 – National Premier Leagues 3 NSW Men's

# GLADESVILLE RYDE MAGIC - WESTERN NSW MARINERS

Sunday 3pm Christie Park

July has been kind to Magic, who have recorded four wins to catapult the club to within four points of the summit. In fact, their only loss in July was to the leaders, St George City – so if they had managed to reverse that result, the Magic would be sitting top, such is the closeness of the league ladder. Gladesville sent a message to the teams near the top last Sunday, with a resounding 5-1 win against fellow Premiership aspirants, Bankstown City Lions. Amongst a host of strong performers, Michael Gaitatzis has been the standout, his goal scoring exploits seeing him return 24 goals in 21 games played.

Even though they still occupy second last place, the Mariners have had some improved showings of late, climbing to 14 points and are now just 2 points from Inter Lions above them.

The Mariners have had two wins in their past 3 weeks – against Inter and Dulwich Hill – and their only loss in that period was a very respectable 1-2 reverse against the league leaders, St George City FA. Gladesville Ryde Magic won the first round encounter between the two clubs, by 3-1 at the Waratah Sports Ground, with the Gaitatzis brothers



scoring the 3 goals between them, and they will be hopeful of another 3 points on Sunday to keep the pressure on at the top.

### **Arlington Oval's** joint tenants go head to head at 7pm on Saturday, with Dulwich Hill meeting Stanmore Hawks. Dulwich Hill have been in a real rut of late, drawing 1 and losing 8 of their past 9 matches. As a result they have slipped well and truly in to the bottom half sitting in 9th spot, and moreso, they are within the sights of a couple of clubs below

them. One of those clubs is Stanmore Hawks, who are on 19 points, knowing a win here will draw Dully to within arm's length. Stanmore's form of late hasn't been great either, although their recent performances have been highlighted by a 1-0 win over high flying Bankstown City Lions. The last time these clubs met back in Round 9 resulted in a 2-1 win for Dulwich Hill, and another win here by Dully could be just the tonic they need to drag themselves up off the canvas.

**Gladesville Ryde Magic will be hoping to continue their run of momentum when they welcome the Western NSW Mariners to Christie Park on Sunday afternoon for a 3pm kick off.**



## WHITE EAGLES ANNOUNCE NEW HEAD OF FOOTBALL

Bonnyrigg White Eagles are pleased to announce the club's new head of football for the 2019 season, Milan Blagojevic.

Blagojevic will assume the role of first grade head coach and youth technical director. Milan Susak will also continue in his role as first grade assistant coach. The former Socceroo returns to

his boyhood club where he spent his youth and began his senior footballing career before becoming a star in the National Soccer League (NSL). Blagojevic also began his coaching career at the White Eagles, guiding them to second place in the league and a grand final place in 2005. Bonnyrigg look forward to a long and successful partnership with one of the best coaches in the country.